

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS, 1938-39.

I. TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE £2,669,124 increase £151,594.

From the maximum consumption year 1926-27 when the Drink Bill was £3,003,828, averaging per inhabitant £5.7:1 there had been a constant annual fall to £1,775,249 - £3.1.6 per head in 1931-32, since when there has been a continuous rise, due mainly to an increased consumption of beer. The total drink bill for 1938-39 was £2,669,124 - £4.9.10 per head, being an increase during the last 7 years of £893,875 or £1.8.4 per head, the increase for the last year being £151,594 or £0.4.7 per head.

		1926-27	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
Total Value	£	3,003,828	2,323,800	2,517,530	2,669,124
Per head of popn.		£5.7.1	£3.19.0	£4.5.3	£4.9.10

II. TOTAL QUANTITIES CONSUMED.

BEER (Galls.) 6,015,395 - increase 522,342 or 9½% (0.3% Imported)
SPIRITS (Pf. Galls.) 90,513 - decrease 2,218 or 2½% (34.7% Imported)

BEER. - The consumption per inhabitant was 10.12 galls., an increase of 0.82 gallons for the year and 4.41 gallons for the last 7 years, but it is still less than the maximum of 10.83 gallons in 1926-27. Imported Beer decreased from 20,300 gallons to 19,728, and Australian Beer increased from 5,472,753 to 5,995,667 gallons.

SPIRITS. (Pf. Galls.) - Consumption of Spirits was .01 pf. galls. less than in the previous years - 0.15 pf. galls. per inhabitant compared with the maximum of 0.37 pf. galls in 1923-24. The total quantity in pf. galls. was 90,513 a decrease of 2,218 pf. galls. or 2½%. Imported Spirits consumed decreased by 0.6% and Australian Spirits by 5.3%. The proportion to the total was - Imported Spirits 34.7 (35.8)%, Australian Spirits 65.3 (64.2)%.

WINE. The annual consumption is estimated at 0.75 gallons per head.

		1926-27	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
Beer	Galls.	6,074,176	4,993,962	5,493,053	6,015,395
Per Head	"	10.83	8.49	9.30	10.12
Spirits	Pf. Galls.	178,856	87,481	92,731	90,513
Per Head	"	0.32	0.15	0.16	0.15
Propn. Imported	%	47.9	36.3	35.8	34.7

III. NET CUSTOMS AND EXCISE REVENUE £915,637 (£872,038).

		1926-27	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
Customs	£	197,368	75,673	77,007	73,629
Excise	£	992,041	727,240	795,031	842,008
Total	£	1,189,409	802,913	872,038	915,637

IV. DRUNKENNESS - CONVICTIONS 2,653 (2,520).

The convictions for drunkenness for the year numbered 2,653 (2,520), an increase of 133 or 0.19 per 1,000 inhabitants. Per 1,000 of population, the convictions were 4.46 (4.27) compared with 10.89 in 1926 and 13.63 in 1913. The minimum was 4.03 in 1931.

		1926	1936	1937	1938
Convictions	No.	6,029	2,628	2,520	2,653
Per 1000 popn.	No.	10.89	4.46	4.27	4.46

A. W. BOWDEN,

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

Statistical Office, ADELAIDE.
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